

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the above-identified application be further preliminarily amended as provided in the foregoing amendment prior to calculation of any fees for the within RCE. Applicants also respectfully request the Examiner to consider the foregoing amended claims and the remarks provided in Applicants' Response to Final Office Action dated October 10, 2003 in the first Office Action on the merits.

Applicants also respectfully request the Examiner to contact the undersigned, if not contacted prior to this, before the Examiner takes further action as to the subject application. Applicants want to conduct an interview (i.e., a telephone interview) with the Examiner so as to discuss further amending of the other claims of the subject application for consideration by the Examiner as well as to advance prosecution of the subject application.

In the Advisory Action the Examiner indicated that certain of Applicants' arguments regarding claims 33 and 43 were not reflected in the language of these claims. As such, Applicants further amended claims 33 and 43 so as to include language in support of these arguments. Support for the further amendments can be found, for example, at page 15, lines 10-19 of the subject application for the amendments to claim 33 and for claim 43 reference should be made to page 4, line 18 through page 5, line 23 and page 52, line 16 to page 53, line 3 of the subject application.

It is respectfully submitted that the above-described amendments do not involve the introduction of new matter and are supported in the originally filed disclosure including the claims as originally filed.

Applicants submit that the claims are allowable as written and respectfully request early favorable action by the Examiner.

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Applicants believe that additional fees are not required for consideration of the within Preliminary Amendment. However, if for any reason a fee is required, a fee paid is inadequate or credit is owed for any excess fee paid, you are hereby authorized and requested to charge Deposit Account No. 04-1105.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 11, 2003

By: 

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